

Message Text

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SUBJECT: RHODESIA CONFERENCE: PATRIOTIC FRONT STATEMENT OF
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES PUT FORWARD
BY PATRIOTIC FRONT DURING DEC. 2 SESSION.

BEGIN TEXT:

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE SECOND PHASE OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE

IN DESIGNING STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE TRANSITIONAL
GOVERNMENT, IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE A CLEAR PERSPECTIVE.
THIS MAY REQUIRE LAYING DOWN GUIDING PRINCIPLES WHICH TAKE
INTO ACCOUNT THE PECULIAR NATURE OF BRITISH COLONIALISM IN
ZIMBABWE. THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES:

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2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES.

(A) NATURE OF BRITISH COLONIALISM. THE BRITISH COLONY OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA IS AT THIS MOMENT BEING GOVERNED BY A MINORITY RACIST REGIME ON THE BASIS OF ILLEGALITY IN THE FULL VIEW OF BRITAIN (THE COLONIAL POWER) AND THE WHOLE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. IN 1965 BRITAIN ALLOWED A DANGEROUS AND EXPLOSIVE SITUATION TO DEVELOP BY CONDONING UDI WHICH WAS USED BY THE MINORITY RACIST REGIME TO IMPOSE THEIR WILL, BY BRUTAL FORCE, OVER THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE IN ALL FIELDS OF HUMAN LIFE. THOSE WHO SEEK THE DISMANTLEMENT OF THIS POWER STRUCTURE ARE JUSTIFIED AND THEIR CAUSE IS A JUST ONE.

(B) CONTENDING FORCES SINCE THE ILLEGAL SEIZURE OF POWER IN 1965, THERE HAVE BEEN TWO FORCES CONTENDING FOR THE CONTROL OF ZIMBABWE. ON THE ONE HAND, THERE HAS BEEN THE COLONIAL FORCES REPRESENTED

BY BRITAIN AND ITS AGENTS, THE RACIST REGIMES OF RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA AND SUPPORTED BY INTERNATIONAL IMPERIALISM. ON THE OTHER, THERE HAVE BEEN THE LIBERATION FORCES THAT TOOK UP ARMS AGAINST BRITISH COLONIALISM AND ITS AGENTS. MEANINGFUL DECOLONISATION MUST ENTAIL A TOTAL TRANSFER OF POWER FROM THE COLONIAL POWER TO THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT.

(C) ROLE OF BRITAIN IN THE DECOLONIZATION PROCESS. BRITAIN, AS THE COLONIAL POWER, MUST ASSUME HER FULL DECOLONIZING RESPONSIBILITY AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN AND ACCELERATE THE PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION. TO THIS END BRITAIN MUST PROVIDE A HIGHLY QUALIFIED REPRESENTATIVE WHO IS NOT ONLY COMMITTED TO THE DECOLONIZATION OF ZIMBABWE BUT WHOSE TASKS WOULD BE ALSO TO GUARANTEE THE TRANSFER OF POWER, ACCELERATE THE PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION, IMPOSE THE REALITY OF INDEPENDENCE AND FINALLY ENSURE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CORDIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE.

(D) THE CHARACTERISTICS OF TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD BEGINS WITH THE SIGNING OF THE GENEVA ACCORD. HOWEVER, EFFECTIVE CONTROL BEGINS WITH THE ZIMBABWEANS TAKING OVER THE PHYSICAL INSTRUMENTS OF POWER WHICH ENSURES THE EFFECTIVE AND IRREVERSIBLE TRANSMISSION OF TOTAL POWER. THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD IS A PERIOD OF CONTINUOUS TRANSFERRING OF UNCLASSIFIED

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EFFECTIVE POWER WHICH WILL END WITH ATTAINMENT OF INDEPENDENCE.

(E) JOINT RESPONSIBILITY. IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF BRITAIN, THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT AND THE ENTIRE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE, TO ENSURE THAT EFFECTIVE POWER BE EXERCISED BY THE MAJORITY AND THAT AN ORDERLY AND PEACEFUL PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION BEGINS AND CONCLUDES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IN SUBMITTING THESE PROPOSALS ON THE CONSITUTIONAL STRUCTURES OF THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT ON THE BASIS OF WHICH OUR COUNTRY WILL MOVE FROM COLONIAL TO INDEPENDENT STATUS, THE ZIMBABWE PATRIOTIC FRONT WISHES TO AFFIRM THAT THE SOURCE AND POWER OF SUCH A TRANSITIONAL CONSTITUTION DERIVES FROM THE SUPREME SACRIFICE IN THE ARMED AND OTHER FORMS OF STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE.

THE PATRIOTIC FRONT REITERATES THAT THE POEPL E OF ZIMBABWE DEMAND AN INTERIM CONSTITUTION WHOSE CAPACITY, CONTENT, AND DIRECTION CLEARLY GIVES THEM CONTROL OVER THE INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT WHICH ARE STRATEGIC IN THE DETERMINATION OF THE CERTAINTY OF AND THE PACE TO INDEPENDENCE. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT, IN WHICH BRITAIN, AS THE DECOLONIZER, WILL EXERCISE HER TERMINAL RESIDUAL POWERS.

WE CALL FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE ACCOMPANYING PROPOSALS BY THE CONFERENCE.

END TEXT. CATTO

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